



WELCOME!

**National Youth Court Center
Youth Court Implementation
Training Seminar**

Sponsored by:

OJJDP & NHTSA



Youth Courts: A National Perspective



General Definition

A program in which youth are sentenced by their peers.

Respondents: 11-17 years old

Volunteers: 13-18 years old



What Makes Youth Courts Appealing?

- **Serves as a prevention and early intervention program**
- **Offers a way to hold juvenile offenders accountable**
- **Provides a means for educating youth on the legal and judicial system**
- **Provide a meaningful forum for youth to build competencies and practice and enhance skills**
- **Offers an avenue for youth to provide service for and build ties to their communities**



Location of Youth Courts Nationally

**1994: 78
Youth Court
Programs**

**2003: 900
Youth Court
Programs**



□ States without
youth court
programs



Location of Youth Courts Locally

- **Juvenile Justice System-Based**
 - **Courts**
 - **Law Enforcement Agencies**
 - **Juvenile Probation Departments**
- **Community-Based**
 - **Private Non Profit Organizations**
- **School-Based**
 - **Self Contained**
 - **As Partners with Community or Justice System-Based**



Common Elements

- **Diversion programs**
- **First-time offenders**
- **Misdemeanor, non-violent cases**
- **Require youth to admit to charge**
- **Voluntary participation**
- **Parental consent/participation mandatory**



Types of Offenses





Types of Offenses

42%

☐ **Traffic**

48%

☐ **School
Disciplinary**

56%

☐ **Curfew**



Common Sentencing Options

- **Community Service**
- **Oral/Written Apologies**
- **Essays**
- **Jury Duty**
- **Educational Workshops**



Additional Sentencing Options

- **Restitution**
- **Alcohol/Drug Assessment**
- **Curfew**
- **Tutoring**
- **Victim Awareness Class or Panel**
- **Drug Testing**
- **Peer Mediation**



Adult Judge Model

- **Youth volunteers serve in the roles of:**
 - **Defense Attorneys**
 - **Prosecuting Attorneys**
 - **Clerks**
 - **Bailiffs**
 - **Jurors**
- **Adult volunteer serves in the role of:**
 - **Judge**



Youth Judge Model

- **Youth volunteers serve in the role of:**
 - **Judge**
 - **Prosecuting Attorneys**
 - **Defense Attorneys**
 - **Clerks**
 - **Bailiffs**
 - **Jurors**



Youth Tribunal Model

- **Youth volunteers serve in the roles of:**
 - **Judge(s)**
 - **Defense Attorneys**
 - **Prosecuting Attorneys**
 - **Clerks**
 - **Bailiffs**
- **There is NO PEER JURY**



Peer Jury Model

- **Adult or youth volunteer serves in the role of judge or monitor**
- **Youth volunteers serve as jurors and question the defendant directly**
- **Some programs use youth advocates**



Role of National Youth Court Center

Help youth courts build their capacity by:

- **Serving as an information clearinghouse**
 - **Maintain comprehensive database**
 - **Collect program information on youth courts**
 - **Answer more than ... requests via email, phone and written correspondence**



Role of National Youth Court Center

- **Providing training and technical assistance**
 - **Conferences**
 - **Regional training seminars**
 - **Limited onsite technical assistance**
 - **Workshops**



Role of National Youth Court Center

- **Developing resources including:**
 - **Peer Justice and Youth Empowerment: An Implementation Guide for Teen Court Programs**
 - **National Youth Court Guidelines**
 - **In Session (newsletter)**
 - **Getting the Most Out of the Deliberation Process – Video/Online Lesson**
 - **Role of Restorative Justice in Teen Courts Bulletin**
 - **12-Month Campaign Calendars**



Main NYCC Website


www.youthcourt.net

National Youth Court Center Website - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address http://www.youthcourt.net/ Go Links Best of the Web Channel Guide



[Site Map](#) | [Links](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [In the News](#)

National Youth Court Center

Action...Involved...Empowered
Youth Volunteer Website

CALENDAR

NEW Program Coordinators Click Here

Teen Courts
Join the thousands of youth who are serving their communities!

What can YOUR YOUTH COURT do? April 2003
Focus on... Victims' Issues

SEARCH

About the National Youth Court Center

National Listing of Youth Courts

Publications

Resources

NYCC Newsletter

Training and Technical Assistance

Online Training

12-Month Campaign

Message Boards

HOME

Tell a Friend!

What's NEW!

- ★ **Youth Court Implementation Seminars**
Trainings available in Austin, Texas and Nashville, Tennessee.
- ★ **Youth Court Youth Website Moves to New Address**
Same content, different location.
- ★ **Youth Courts: An Implementation Training Seminar**
Specialized training for OJP Grantees. Application deadline extended.
- ★ **Winter 2003 In Session** - The National Youth Court Center's Quarterly Newsletter.
- ★ **Winter 2003 Youth Volunteer Newsletter**
Written entirely by youth court youth

T-Shirt Sale!!

Order a cool Youth Court T-shirt

only \$10!!

Done Internet



Youth Court Youth Website

www.ycyouth.net

Microsoft Internet Explorer window titled "Youth Court Youth - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The address bar shows "http://www.ycyouth.net/".

The website layout includes a top navigation bar with links: [Search](#), [Site Map](#), [Links](#), and [Contact Us](#). A "Home" button is also present.

The main content area features the YCY logo with the tagline "In Action... Involved... Empowered". Below the logo is a circular photo of two smiling youth court members.

On the left side, there is a vertical menu with links: [Chat Room](#), [Message Boards](#), [Resources](#), [National Youth Court Center Home Page](#), [Online Training](#), [Newsletter](#), and [Add This Site](#). At the bottom of this menu are logos for **APPA** and **OJJDP**.

The main content area includes several promotional sections:

- Sign up for the Youth Volunteer Email Group!**
- new!! on the docket**: "Take the new online lesson : ["Getting the Most out of the Deliberation Process"](#)"
- Attention Youth Court Attorneys:** [get tips for Preparing Your Case!](#)
- Way to Go!** Youth volunteers that have received youth court awards!
- stuff for april** (with a dropdown arrow)
- youth spotlight**
- youth newsletter** (with a graphic of a rolled-up document)
- Attention Graduating Seniors!!** [Tell us about your youth court experiences.](#)
- [Write an article for the youth](#)

The status bar at the bottom shows "Done" and "Internet".



Role of National Youth Court Center

- **Providing resources through our allied agencies:**
 - **Youth Volunteer Training Package (ABA)**
 - **Street Law for Youth Courts: Educational Workshops (Street Law, Inc.)**
 - **Giving Back: A Community Service Learning Manual for Youth Courts (CRFC/CRF)**
 - **Youth Courts: Young People Delivering Justice (ABA)**



National Youth Court Center

**c/o American Probation & Parole
Assoc.**

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